

## Guiding Values to Implement Group Activities for the

### Supporting Families Community of Practice (CoP)

1. **Inclusive, Community Commitment:** CoP groups will include self-advocates, family members, siblings, providers, state agency representatives and other community members. Accommodations will be provided to participants at each meeting as needed. Meetings will be held in accessible community locations, or through videoconferencing so that community participants can be included from a variety of locations around the state. Plain language will be used to develop all meeting materials.

You'll know you are doing it right when.... **You are connecting people who might not otherwise have the opportunity to meet, share ideas and explore new ideas and solutions.**

2. **Lifespan Discovery Focus:** The discovery of new ideas and solutions to identified issues is essential to the success of each work group. Emerging best practices and the identification of new ideas/practices will be explored and considered by each group through a lifespan lens. Goals and activities will be developed from those practices which are recommended for replication.

You know you are doing it right when... **Group members share information, stories, and personal experiences in a way that builds understanding and insight. Learning occurs through authentic communication, mentoring, coaching, and self-reflection. The dialogue between group members creates new, mutually beneficial opportunities.**

3. **Measurable Replicable Results:** Group goals will be developed based upon baseline data. Goals will be written in a SMART manner. (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-Bound). Group goals and activities will be reviewed and approved by the larger CoP community. Progress reports will be submitted to the CoP facilitators on a quarterly basis.

You know you are doing it right when... **Group members organize around purposeful actions that deliver tangible results.**

4. **Effective Communication:** The new knowledge generated by groups will be effectively communicated. Successful replication of this knowledge will be celebrated and marketed through a variety of avenues so that an audience as broad as possible will be reached.

You know you are doing it right when **others use the information shared to transform their practice to accommodate changes in needs and technologies.**